What is claimed is:

1. A tool head for installation of a cable tie about a bundle of elongate articles, the tool head being adapted for use with a remote dispenser, cable tie bandolier and cable tie delivery hose of an automatic cable tie installation system, said cable tie including a head and an elongate tail extending therefrom, said tail having a width T, the tool head comprising:

a housing;

a jaw assembly for grasping and directing said cable tie about said articles;

a tie passage communicating at one end with said cable tie delivery hose and at the other end with said jaw assembly whereby a cable tie supplied by said remote dispenser is delivered to said jaw assembly;

a tie tensioning assembly for tensioning said cable tie, said tie tensioning assembly including a drive train and a pawl gear mechanism; and

wherein said pawl gear mechanism includes a tension gear having at least one tail-engaging surface extending thereabout, said tail-engaging surface having a width R and defining a circumference C_1 having a diameter D_1 with respect to the center of said tension gear, said pawl gear mechanism also including a tie guide cooperating with said tension gear to define a first passage, said tie guide including a second passage communicating with and extending between said first passage and said housing, said first passage being sized to receive said tail of said tie from said jaw assembly upon installation of said tie about said elongate articles, said pawl gear mechanism further including a first auxiliary ramp located adjacent said tail-engaging surface, and wherein said width T of said tail is greater than said width R of said tail-engaging surface whereby said tail contacts said first auxiliary ramp as said tail moves therepast, and wherein said first auxiliary ramp has a leading edge defining a circumference C_2 having a diameter D_2 with respect to the center of said tension gear, and wherein said diameter D_2 is less than said diameter D_1 whereby said first auxiliary ramp guides said tail from said first passage into said second passage.

2. The tool head according to Claim 1, further comprising a second auxiliary ramp, said second auxiliary ramp being located adjacent said tail-engaging surface and opposite said first auxiliary ramp.

3. The tool head according to Claim 2, wherein each of said first and second auxiliary ramps has a width U, and wherein said width T of said tail is substantially equal to the sum of width R of said tail-engaging surface and widths U of said first and second auxiliary ramps.

4. The tool head according to Claim 3, wherein said tie guide includes a main ramp having a leading edge defining a circumference C_3 having a diameter D_3 with respect to the center of said tension gear

5. The tool head according to Claim 4, wherein said diameter D_3 of said leading edge of said main ramp is greater than said diameter D_1 of said tail-engaging surface.

6. The tool head according to Claim 5, wherein said second auxiliary ramp includes a leading edge defining a circumference C_4 having a diameter D_4 with respect to the center of said tension gear, and wherein D_4 is substantially equal to D_2.

7. The tool head according to Claim 6, wherein said tail-engaging surface includes a plurality of external gear teeth, each of said teeth being configured to engage and grip said tail throughout said first passage.

8. The tool head according to Claim 7, wherein said main ramp is located to define the intersection of said first and second passages.

9. The tool head according to Claim 8, wherein said tie guide includes a front tie guide and an upper tie guide, said front tie guide and said tension gear cooperating to define said first passage, said second passage being located between said front and upper tie guides, said main ramp being located on said upper tie guide.

10. The tool head according to Claim 9, wherein said auxiliary guide ramps are located on said upper tie guide, and wherein said auxiliary guide ramps extend continuously from diameter D_2 to diameter D_3 whereby said tail is continuously and positively guided from said first passage onto said main ramp defining said second passage.

11. The tool head according to Claim 10, wherein said tensioning assembly further includes a tension adjustment mechanism pivotally mounted to said housing and located to cooperate with said pawl gear mechanism.

12. The tool head according to Claim 11, wherein said jaw assembly includes:

top and bottom jaw members;

first and second opposing jaw-mounting plates;

a trigger connected to said bottom jaw for moving said bottom jaw between an open position and a closed position;

a push rod for moving said top jaw during installation of said cable tie about said bundle of elongate articles;

a power-operated device for powering said push rod; and

a cutting mechanism supported between said jaw-mounting plates and cooperating with said pawl gear mechanism to cut off an excess portion of said tail from said tensioned cable tie.